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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
9 April 1971

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

CEYLON

(Situation as of 1330 EST)

1. There is little information on the present status of the insurgency. The government cancelled today's scheduled 9 hour relaxation of the curfew and extended it until 6:00 AM tomorrow morning (1930 hours EST today). This twenty-four hour extension is probably an attempt to ease pressure on the country's almost exhausted security forces.

2. Prime Minister Bandaranaike delivered a speech to the nation today in which she claimed that the situation was "well under control" but the general tone of the address belied her claim. She appealed for the nation's cooperation to maintain law and order "at this critical juncture" and pledged that her government would fight the terrorists and would not surrender its right to govern.

3. The Ceylonese Minister of Housing, who is also leader of the Ceylon Communist Party/Moscow, in a speech yesterday claimed that the insurgents were "fascist terrorists" masquerading as socialists. This is in line with comments by other members of the government over the past few weeks charging that the "Che Guevarists" were actually supported by reactionary forces both at home and abroad.

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